

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CONTRACTS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2013
6:00 PM**

ATTENDANCE: Co-chair Marella, *Co-chair Silva; Council members: dePara, Paoletto, Brannelly

**= arrived late*

OTHER(s): Council President McCarthy, Associate Attorney Pacacha

CITY STAFF: A. Baptista, Acting Deputy Director of Health; T. Sherwood, OPM;
S. Hladun, Parks & Recreation Dept.

Co-chair Marella called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Approval of Committee Minutes of June 23, 2013 (Special Meeting).

Approval of Committee Minutes of July 1, 2013 (Special Meeting).

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT McCARTHY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Approval of Committee Minutes of July 9, 2013.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT McCARTHY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

118-12 Proposed Student Education Affiliation Agreement with Southern Connecticut State University.

Ms. Baptista stated that this item pertained to an agreement to provide an opportunity for students at Southern Connecticut State University, to gain valuable public health knowledge through rotation from September to December and January to March. There will be an exchange of monies and the students come with indemnification letters. She noted that the city attorney's office reviewed the agreement. There is no cost to the city.

She further explained that the program will help give students exposure to health issues and the students assisted in one of the drills that were held.

Council member Brannelly asked if the agreement was a renewal of a similar or previous contract. Attorney Pacacha replied that this was the first time they had a contract with Southern Connecticut State University.

Council member Paoletto commented that through him working in the health department, he sees the good results. He said the program helps the city as a health department and it's a great opportunity to continue doing a good job.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

***Consent calendar**

122-12 Proposed Professional Design Services Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. for an all inclusive Playground located at Beardsley Park.

Steve Hladun stated that he was present to speak on behalf of Ted Grabarz and Charles Carroll. He stated that the city initiated the agreement during 2011 and the goal was to provide better access to playgrounds. He said Beardsley Park was chosen as the first site to improve access. He explained that the site has seen some water drainage problems, but the contract is to build the playground to accommodate all backgrounds to enjoy recreation. An RFQ was conducted in during 2012, six firms were short listed and Stantec had the lowest cost bid that was approved for a total of \$104k. He noted that the amount has been allocated through the State of Connecticut capital improvement program.

Council member Paoletto stated that he and Co-chair Marella represent the Beardsley Park district. He recalled that this has been a project in the works for a while. He asked where the playground will be built. Mr. Hladun explained that the playground will be

located directly across from the existing playground. He stated that the area across from the driveway is full of invasive species and it's a large open space. As far as the flooding issue, he said the property is situated in the watershed; however, drainage remediation will be a large part of the project. He stated that the project is now at the conceptual level and they will also install borings on site and conduct a soil assessment.

Mr. Sherwood commented that the park will be accessible for all persons including handicap.

Council President McCarthy expressed that this project was close to his heart, noting that it was shameless that they don't have a handicap accessible park in the city. He further commented that there is a particular city resident is very pleased and excited about the project. He said the Mayor chose the spot and Charles Carroll is also involved. He stated that he completely supports the project.

Council member dePara asked if there was a projected cost for the total project. Mr. Hladun said the estimated cost was under \$500k; however, they are still in the preliminary conceptual phase. He explained that part of the process will be to create a cost estimate based on design. He noted that he will provide an update on the costs as they become available. He added that lighting and other amenities may drive the cost up, but it will be closely watched. He agreed to keep the committee informed about the costs.

Mr. Sherwood said the park build out has been allocated in the capital fund.

Council member dePara asked if anyone signed off on the out of pocket expenses. Mr. Hladun said the invoices are submitted according to the standard contract.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT McCARTHY SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

***Consent calendar**

123-12 (Ref. #83-11) Proposed Professional Design Services Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc for a Neighborhood Park located at 115 Virginia Avenue.

Mr. Hladun updated that over the past year, the city and city council have worked on the project and the parcel was previously owned by the state. The city now has the parcel as part of the property. He explained that the design goal was to create

a neighborhood park. As part of the parks master plan, they looked at the topography and location and included those factors in the RFQ. He said they were actively reaching out to the community and local state holders and both are excited about the park development, so they will start the engineering and design plans.

He stated that some discussion revolved around the site connecting to the Nob Hill community for walking dogs and possibly a sports amenity. Overall, they are looking to engage the community in the project. He noted that capital improvement funding has been identified for the project.

Council member Paoletto commented dog park, dog park, dog park; noting that it's a big thing to have. He asked about the name for the park. Mr. Sherwood stated that until it's formal, the contract is relevant to the project; hence the address.

Mr. Hladun noted that the Board of Parks Commission reviewed the project.

Council member dePara asked the number of bidders there were for the RFQ process and the criteria for scoring. Mr. Hladun said they had twelve to thirteen respondents. The RFQ was based on the submittal and the criteria of past experience and knowledge of locality and capacity. For selection of the short list, it was narrowed down to six (6) firms to keep it competitive and the proposals were largely based on price. He noted that out of the six bidders, five of them participated in the entire process.

Mr. Sherwood commented that Stantec will be around a while, because they are involved in a lot of projects; such as Pleasure Beach and regionally, they worked on the Yankee Stadium Park.

Council member dePara asked if he knew the projected final build out cost. Mr. Hladun said they need to factor in the utility connections based on the estimates. Mr. Sherwood estimated the cost would be \$1.1 million.

Mr. Hladun noted that the pile of rubble has been removed by the state and the site is relatively clean right now.

Council member dePara asked if any future monitoring was planned for the site. Mr. Sherwood said no, because the site didn't have any major contaminates problems; it was mostly rubble from the building and no underground issues were found.

Co-chair Silva asked how far back the park will be located and if it will be in proximity to the Evers Court entrance to get to the dog park. Mr. Sherwood said the egress still needs to be determined. He noted that the work may have to be phased if necessary.

Council member Paoletto asked if they planned on gating the property and if they were only creating the driveway with no parking lot. Mr. Sherwood said that was correct.

Council member dePara made a request that the committee be kept updated on the potential projected costs. Mr. Hladun acknowledged the request.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**
**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT McCARTHY SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**
***Consent calendar**

ADJOURNED

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services